

Mr. Lullmann
Current Events
2010-2011

During the school year we will be following current events throughout the United States and the world. I believe having a continual current events unit is very important in studying and understanding history. My goals are for you to become better informed about the world around you, connect history to your current place in society, and to become more informed and rational citizens and future voters. In doing so, I hope that you will acquire a deeper appreciation for history and realize the effect that history has had on you and how you will have the opportunity to contribute to the decisions being made in the years to come. The format for our current events will go as follows:

Each student will find one article each week in a newspaper or an online newspaper. You will then cut out the article or photo copy the article to share with the class and to turn in to Mr. Lullmann. Acceptable newspapers include: *Des Moines Register*, *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*. There are many other papers that may be acceptable. Use your own judgment on what is acceptable but if you are not sure, find something else or ask me.

After finding your article you must be able to critically read, summarize, and connect the article to an event in history (or a current issue in American Government). Connecting the article to an event in history (or by examining the controversy, potential impact, or relationship to class of the topic) is by far the hardest but most **important** aspect of the assignment. This part should take you some time to critically think and apply what we have studied to the modern world. Current events are designed to be a valuable teaching tool and not a long tedious assignment. I expect you to take the assignment seriously and to show some thought and understanding of history and the world around you. Do a great job because it can be a tremendous boost to your grade.

Grading will go as follows:

- Cutting out or photocopying an article from a major newspaper. Critically reading your article and highlighting the major points and quotes. **2 pt**
- Providing a citation from your source (Author. "Title." Source. Date.) **2 pt**
- Summarizing the important information found in your article. **2 pt**
- Describing how the article relates to what we are studying in history. **4 pts**

